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Public Health Reports

Treasury Department, United States Marine-Hospital Service. Published in accordance with act of Congress approved February 15, 1893.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., JULY 27, 1900.

No. 30.

NOTICE.

Any person on the mailing list of the PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS who, at any time, fails to receive promptly this publication will confer a favor by notifying the Surgeon-General of the United States Marine-Hospital Service.

UNITED STATES.

Shipment of bone dust from Bombay permitted.

The regulation in regard to bone dust or bone meal (see PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS, No. 19, July 11, page 1111) shipped from Bombay to the United States via Liverpool, Glasgow, and other ports of Europe, has been modified by permitting the shipment of dry bone dust or bone meal if away from an infected territory for sixty days.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

Smallpox at Cape Nome.

[Continued from PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS July 13, page 1757.]

NOME, ALASKA, *July 10, 1900,*
via Port Townsend, July 20, 1900.

Two new cases smallpox since last report; apparently not spreading. Am maintaining examination of vessels and immediate isolation ashore.

JARVIS.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

July 19 Asst. Surg. B. J. Lloyd was relieved from duty at San Francisco quarantine and was directed to proceed to Cape Nome for the purpose of aiding Assistant Surgeon Earle.

Asst. Surg. Carroll Fox has been detached from Port Townsend Quarantine and ordered to report to Assistant Surgeon Moore, who has already established quarantine at Dutch Harbor.

July 27, 1900

1874

[Telegram.]

SEATTLE, WASH., July 26, 1900.

Moore writes from Dutch Harbor that he has schooner *Laurel* quarantined. Crew and passengers vaccinated. Patient in tent on shore, care of a physician. Is assisted by captain of the *Rush*. Requests me purchase 500 vaccine points and forward to him by first steamer. Am I authorized to do this?

EAGLESON.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Inspection of vessels from Cape Nome.

PORT TOWNSEND QUARANTINE,
Port Townsend, Wash., July 18, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the American steamship *Ohio* arrived from Nome here on July 11, 1900, seven days out. This steamer took off 2 cases of smallpox at Seattle before departure and left during the night before I had been notified of the fact. Two other cases developed on the trip north. They were taken ashore at Egg Island, some efforts at disinfection were made, all hands were vaccinated, and the vessel and entire personnel were held for eleven days. On arrival here all infected parts of the vessel and bedding were disinfected, all hands not showing signs of recent vaccination were vaccinated and the personnel and vessel were released on authority issued by you.

The American steamship *Santa Ana* arrived here on July 13, 1900, twelve days out from Nome. She also had 1 case of smallpox en route to the north, which was removed at Egg Island, and vessel and personnel held eleven days. On arrival here all were well, all bedding and bunks near the case had been removed at Nome, and it was fifteen days since the case had been taken off the vessel. All infected parts of the vessel and bedding liable to infection, were disinfected. All hands were vaccinated. During her stay at quarantine a fireman was taken with a chill, headache, and backache, with some fever. He was promptly isolated in a tent. Fifteen of the crew who had slept near him and might possibly have been exposed to the same infection were detained at the station pending developments. It was deemed safe to allow the vessel and the rest of the personnel to depart. Yesterday, four days after the initial chill, no rash having appeared and the temperature being normal, the 15 detained men were allowed to depart. To-day the suspect is practically well, and I expect to release him tomorrow, his trouble having apparently been malaria.

On July 16, 1900, I received a telegram from Acting Assistant Surgeon Eagleson at Seattle, stating that upon examining the steamer *Centennial*, about to clear for Nome, he had found 1 case of smallpox among the passengers. The case had been on board but two hours, and the vessel was ready to sail. Under directions from this office the case was removed to the pesthouse, all bedding he came in contact with was burned, the room he had been in was disinfected and sealed for the entire voyage. The entire personnel of the vessel was vaccinated and she was allowed to depart.

Respectfully,

M. H. FOSTER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.